

Managing Natural Resource Pathways *Planning Is Everything!*

Resource management work could provide pathways to unintentionally spread plant and animal species to new locations. Next to habitat loss, invasive species are resource management's biggest challenge. Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Points (HACCP) planning was developed by industry to remove contamination in food production at critical control points. HACCP planning has been adapted as a pathway management planning tool to remove contaminating species, or hitchhikers, and prevent unintended introductions. HACCP's five linked forms identify risks of hitchhiking species and focuses preventative actions on specific problem areas in the pathway. Best management practices (BMP) are recorded. Risks are identified for easy review. Funding needs and management decisions based on HACCP plans ensure priorities are addressed strategically and in a consistent manner.

The Fish & Wildlife Service's National Conservation Training Center (NCTC) and Partners developed a two day training course to teach HACCP planning procedures for managers, biologists and technicians. Attendees will learn to manage natural resource pathways using HACCP planning principles. Responsible natural resource management means just that! Learn the planning process that will help you identify risks and focus attention on critical control points where nontarget species and other biologics (hitchhikers) can be removed from your pathway.

WHY? Lack of planning could spread invasive species!

HACCP information and support is web-based at (www.HACCP-NRM.org). Forms, a searchable database of completed HACCP plans, supporting documents and future training announcements are available. Sharing HACCP plans and BMP's helps manage all pathways.

For more information contact one of these FWS Aquatic Invasive Species Coordinators:

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